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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CITY DRAFTS \$20 MILLION DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson announced today that his Policy and Development Office has completed Newark's application to the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, (HUD), for \$20 million grant under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.

Commenting on the scope of the Community Development plan, he said: "We want to make it clear that Newark's Community Development program is designed to assist in preparing areas for redevelopment where needed, and to stabilize the community with services such as day care, youth programs, health services, rehabilitation and tree trimming. But the money cannot be spent for new housing development under federal guidelines."

"We consider ourselves to be expeditors in urban development. Our aim is to encourage development by putting in dollars where dollars from other resources are already going, and then monitor those projects to insure their completion."

"We are not talking about a 'pie in the sky' concept. We are talking about attainable goals, that can be reached by integrating some existing programs and city sponsored projects with state and federal efforts."

The completed plan must now be sent to city Council for a final vote before it goes to HUD regional offices for approval. HUD officials note that Newark has a good opportunity to be the first city in New Jersey to submit its plan, a noteworthy point in that the city is the largest and most complex in the state.

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Proposed "areas of activity" in the Newark plan are:

The Old First Ward, bounded by Clifton, 7th and Park Avenues and Broadway: The area is planned to receive physical redevelopment and rehabilitation, where feasible, to halt blight which could affect the entire area.

Brookdale Avenue Area, bounded by Lindsley and South Orange avenues, and Norwood and Boylan Streets. The plan involves rehabilitation or new construction at sites of deteriorating houses to contain the spread of decay.

South Broad - Valley area bounded by High Street, Clinton Avenue, Johnson Avenue, East Bigelow Street, Elizabeth Avenue, East Peddie Street, Penn Railroad, Camp and Crawford Streets. The area has been designated for extensive redevelopment within the guidelines of the Housing and Community Development Act. A proposed land use plan has been developed, featuring several sites selected for program implementation in 1975.

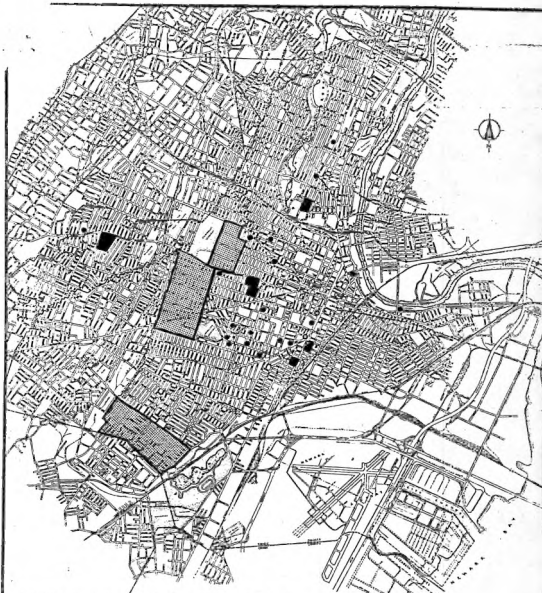
Weequahic area; bounded by Elizabeth Avenue and Lyons Avenue, Stecher Street, Fabyan Place, and Grumman Avenue. Plans include upgrading and stabilization of housing with a home improvement loan and grant program designed to rehabilitate owner-occupied dwellings.

"Heartland" area, bounded by Bedford and Bruce Streets, 15th Avenue and Prospect Place. Plans call for land clearance and packaging for additional residential development (medium-low densities), and open recreational space.

Upper Central area, bounded by Avon and South Orange Avenues, South 18th Street, and the Newark municipal boundary at Irvington. Proposed are a housing preservation program and home improvement loans and grants.

Related citywide activities that accompany the proposed plans for each area include: Street improvements, new street lighting, local business revitalization, security patrol (Columbus Homes), improvement of Rotunda Pool, expanded recreation, health services, day care, drug treatment, bilingual teacher training, consumer protection, emergency transportation, storm water catch basin replacement, sewer cleaning, walking police patrols, and tree-trimming.

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HOUSING DEVELOPMENT LOCATIONS

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